



News Release



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION FIRE MANAGEMENT TEAM 9

For Immediate Release

TEJON FIRE UPDATE

Date: Tuesday July 1, 2003, 8:00 A.M.
Contact: Tony Plante, Public Information Officer
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The 1,200 acre Tejon Fire located in Lebec, CA began on Sunday June 29, 2003 when a vehicle fire spread to the wildland. The fire is 95% contained with full containment expected by 6 P.M. tonight.

There are, 92 fire engines, 17 hand crews, 2 bulldozers, 2 helicopters, and command staff for a total of 620 personnel assigned to the fire. Fire crews continue to mop up and patrol, extinguishing burning materials within the fire's perimeter. Release of excess equipment and personnel will begin today.

Cooperating agencies include Kern County Fire Department, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Youth Authority, California Department of Corrections, California Conservation Corp, US Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, California Highway Patrol and Kern County Sheriff's Department.

Today's temperature is expected to be in the 90's with low humidities and erratic afternoon winds.

Fire conditions, are expected to remain extremely high, and fire officials are asking the public to exercise extreme caution while celebrating the 4th of July holiday weekend. Property owners should help protect their own property by creating a "Defensible Space" by removing at least 30 feet of flammable vegetation from around their homes. Fire prevention literature and assistance is available through your local fire stations.

For further information call (661)248-6680

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